Koran teachers.

314. *MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the monthly salary or allowance given to Koran teachers in the Vernacular Schools of the State :

(*b*) whether the pay they receive is permanent or pensionable ; if not, why ;

(*c*) the grant given to the Koran teachers of the Primary Schools of the State ;

(*d*) whether there is any one else in the staff of the Primary School receiving as low a pay or grant as that of the Koran teachers :

(*e*) whether any of the salary revisions in the Education Department in recent years has resulted in giving any relief to these low-paid Koran teachers

(*f*) whether the Education Reforms Committee made any recommendation to give relief to the Koran teachers in the matter of pay ;

(*g*) whether Koran teaching is done outside school hours in the Primary Schools of the State :

(*h*) whether the clubbing together of different primary classes of different standards for the purpose of teaching Arabic is effective and practical ; and

(*i*) whether there is any proposal to teach Arabic within school hours and without clubbing together different classes of primary schools ?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*) :

(*a*) An allowance of Rs. (10) ten.

(*b*) No, because they are only part-time teachers.

(*c*) Rs. 6 in Boys' Schools and Rs. 5 in Girls' Schools.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) No.

(*g*) Within school hours in some schools and outside school hours in others.

(*h*) No.

(*i*) Yes.

The Text-Book Committee.

315. *MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) what were the principles followed in selecting persons to be nominated to the newly constituted Text-Book Committee :

(*b*) whether the efficiency of the Text-Book Committee had been prejudicially affected by the nomination of a Muslim member to it in former years ; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the negative, why the precedent of nominating Muslims to the Text-Book Committee was not followed while constituting the new Text-Book Committee ?

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MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*):

(*a*) Selection of suitable persons according to subject requirements.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) It is not always possible to represent all sections and communities.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): May I know from the member whether there was any Mahommedan member in the Text-Book Committee on previous occasions?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): Yes.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): May I know whether there is any special reason for depriving him?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): There was only one official member and he was the Assistant Inspector of Mahommedan Schools. Now his full services are required in the office and so he cannot be spared to serve on the Committee.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): May I know from the member whether it is for want of other qualified hands that none was appointed in the Committee?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): It is for want of Arabic books and not for want of qualified hands.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know from the member whether all Arabic books sent up are approved by the Committee?

MR. R M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): This year there was only one Arabic book submitted for approval by the Committee.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether it was approved and, if so, by whom? There is nobody in the Committee who knows Arabic. In that case, I want to know who approved the book?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): The Committee is only an advisory body and the book could have been seen by the Assistant Inspector of Mahommedan Schools or some other expert in the Department.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): So it was not approved by the Committee?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): That is so.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): Is there a rule that books approved by the Committee should be prescribed?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): There is a rule that books approved by the Committee shall be prescribed. But there is no rule that no other book shall be prescribed.

The Levee Officers.

316. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state who are the levee officers?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Officers in Trivandrum drawing a pay of Rs. 350 and above per mensem and also Heads of Departments and Offices the maximum pay

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